

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: HANNIGAN, et al.

Serial No.: 09/937,937

Filed: October 2, 2001

For: VACUUM ASSISTED CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH HEATING AND COOLING PROVISION Examiner:

Group Art Unit: 3761

Attorney Docket No.: VAC.482

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79/0 Date

te Nadeem G. Bridi

Box Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir or Madam:

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AMENDMENT A

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Please amend claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) The method for promoting wound healing as recited in claim 1, wherein said applying a vacuum step comprises the steps of:

packing said wound site with a foam pad, said foam pad being in fluid communication with a vacuum source;

sealing said region, including said foam pad, with a wound drape; and communicating said vacuum from said vacuum source through said foam pad to said region.

Please add new claims 11 - 27 as follows:

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